

Appl. No. 09/241,450
Amdt. dated December 28, 2006
Reply to Office action of November 2, 2006

REMARKS

Applicants thank Examiner Ruddock for her courtesy in a telephone interview with the undersigned on December 19, 2006. The rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph was discussed. Agreement was reached that the rejection would be withdrawn if the independent claims were amended to change "without a facing layer therebetween" to "without an intervening layer therebetween". This amendment is supported by FIGS. 2A and 2B.

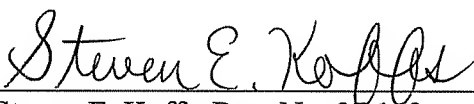
Accordingly, applicants have amended all the independent claims as discussed in the interview.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is now in condition for allowance, and request early notification to that effect.

The Commissioner for patents is requested to charge any fees associated with this communication to deposit account number 04-1679.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 28, 2006


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